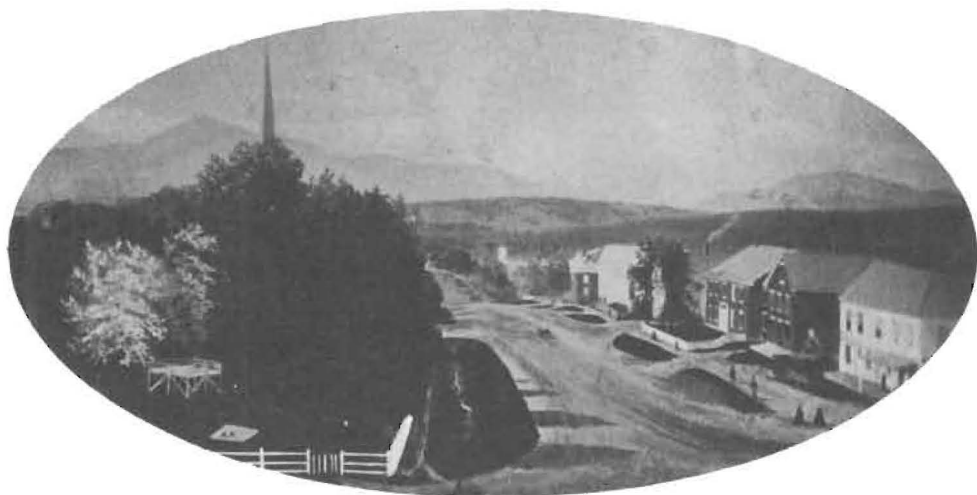


RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME IV No. 1 WINTER 1974

Quarterly



Pencilled on the back of this copy of an oil painting is: . . . West Street and the Main Street Park 'before the war.' The house with the white fence is the old Porter place. The tiny white oblong at the foot of the hill is the old Methodist Church tower.

The gift of Margaret Goodwin Clement Rhodes of Woodstock, formerly of Clementwood in Center Rutland.

The Porter place was demolished several years ago. The site of the Methodist Church was occupied later by Cootey's garage and now by a glove factory. The "war" referred to in the caption above is, of course, the Civil War.

The *Quarterly* of the Rutland Historical Society is published by the Society for the communities comprising the original town of Rutland, chartered in 1761 by Benning Wentworth, governor of the Province of New Hampshire.

EDITOR: Frederic P. Elwert.

STAFF: George J. Covalt, Dr. James Cullina, James S. Davidson, Jon Mayo.

THE RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Membership in the Society is open to all. Dues, payable annually are: Regular membership- \$2.00; Contributing membership- \$10.00.

The Society operates a Museum at 101 Center Street, opposite the Koltonski Fire Station. It is open May 1 to November 1 on Sundays from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. and at other times by appointment for groups of visitors, school classes or clubs. Speakers are available who present talks illustrated with slides. The Society also maintains exhibits at the College of Saint Joseph the Provider during the college year. Contributions of either cash or articles of Rutland interest are welcome and are tax deductible.

Officers and Directors of the Society

PRESIDENT: Frederic P. Elwert
VICE-PRESIDENT: A. J. Todd
SECRETARY: Lincoln M. Fenn
TREASURER: George J. Covalt

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Includes the officers and
Louise Adams (Mrs. Percy W.)
E. Farley Sharp
James S. Davidson
Helen Frederick (Mrs. Leon A.)
Miss Anna McDevitt
Kenneth G. Fisher

REPORT OF THE CURATOR

The difficult tasks of classifying and storing new acquisitions is a never ending process, for gifts have been coming in steadily. Our working library of histories, directories and periodicals is growing. The monthly workshop meetings have resulted in the building of a storage bin for over-size flat articles which had previously been stored against the wall. A case for large framed pictures and glass will be finished before spring. A map case for posters, maps and newspapers (which should not be stored rolled or folded) has been built. Our more valuable articles are in a vault at the First Vermont Bank.

We always welcome histories of Rutland people or of neighboring towns, and such ephemeral material as calendars, note books, ledgers, posters, pamphlets, bulletins, brochures and significant items such as lithographs, maps and genealogies. Particularly desirable are Tuttle used-book catalogs, unusual or early books printed in Rutland, Rutland directories before 1920, publications of the Vermont Historical Society and any articles made or used in Rutland.

Louise Adams

REPORT OF TREASURER

At December 31, 1973 the Society had 242 members in good standing; 95 more were on the rolls, whose dues were in arrears less than two years. Those in good standing included the 17 contributing members listed below:

Mrs. Phyllis R. Baker	Mr. E. Farley Sharp
Mr. Frederick S. Chaffee	Mrs. Beth R. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. George J. Covalt	Dr. Gordon B. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin T. Crawford	Mrs. Anne F. Spencer
Mr. Albert A. Cree	Mrs. Jean A. Toth
Mrs. Julia B. Granger	Mr. Carleton Wilson
Mrs. Emily B. Korngiebel	Mrs. Christine B. Wright
Mr. Norman Lash	

The Society's cash statement for the six months ending December 31, and for the preceding nine months, is:

	Six months ending Dec. 31 1973	Nine months ending June 30 1973
Received:		
From Rutland City	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
From Rutland Town	100.00	
Members' dues	622.00	476.00
Gifts and sales	90.44	306.25
Interest	27.68	21.52
Sturbridge trip July 28	(82.50)	112.50
	\$2,257.62	\$1,916.27
Spent:		
Newsletters - printing and mailing	\$418.90	\$332.04
Other postage, stationery, etc.	105.89	275.75
Meetings	62.11	252.41
Exhibits and Library	86.35	984.75
Repairs and improvements to building		55.33
Building operation	427.25	435.05
Insurance	144.00	257.00
Association membership		25.00
Audit	25.00	
	\$1,269.50	\$2,617.33
Excess of receipts over expenditures	\$988.12	\$(701.06)
Cash balances:		
Beginning of period	343.36	1,044.42
End of period	\$1,331.48	\$343.36

In each of the above periods two newsletters were printed and mailed; but now we have a larger mailing list - we have more members and we are sending some to non-members hoping some of them will join. Building operation has been very costly the last few months.

Book Reviews

We try to review books of Rutland interest as soon as they are published. Occasionally, however, we acquire books years after publication, but because of their importance they warrant reviewing. Any book reviewed here is in the library of the Society.

Frontiersman of Fortune. Moses M. Strong of Mineral Point. by K. W. Duckett. Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin. (1955), 253pp., illus. (Out-of-print.: when available, priced at from \$3 to \$6).

Duckett has written a fascinating biography of a political and economic failure. Copious notes testify to an admirable primary research effort, especially in the Moses M. Strong papers in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The results have been skillfully woven together to produce an enjoyable story.

Although Strong was born and brought up in Rutland (at 61 South Main, across from Christ the King School) little of this book pertains to the Rutland years of his life. Most of the book deals with his search for fame and fortune in early Wisconsin. The notes and bibliographical essay will reward those interested in Rutland history, for Moses corresponded with his father and relatives back home and his papers include their Rutland letters. The papers of his brother, George Washington Strong, of Rutland, are also in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and contain about sixty pieces written to George by various members of the Strong family in Wisconsin.

Strong was one of many Americans who speculated in the West. Whether in lands, lumber, lead mines or railroads, Moses always seemed only a step away from success. But drinking and gambling, mixed with a share of plain bad luck, moved his goal just beyond reach. Although a lawyer by profession, he spent most of his time and energies in speculation and politics. Politically he was a Democrat and, again, a loser. During the Civil War he was a peace-Democrat and some people saw his anti-Lincoln position as equivocal to that of a copperhead.

Regardless of his failings in economics and politics, Moses was a devoted husband and father. He died in 1894, at age 84, a rather "beloved failure."

James S. Davidson

The Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution. by Benson Lossing. Rutland: Tuttle. (1972) two vols., boxed, 772pp., illus., index. \$25.00.

Those working in a special field know that no one book covers that field better than others. In studying the War of Independence this is also true. However, if this reviewer were restricted to just one book covering the military aspects of the subject he would select, out of the hundreds of specialized monographs and the scores of general works, Lossing's Field Book.

The method Lossing uses- that of a field trip starting in our neck of the woods and working south- may be confusing to one expecting a chronological treatment. But, if one uses the index, the parts all fit together. The many interviews with veterans of the conflict and the numerous woodcuts present a picture of those trying times which historians, archaeologists and others have found most useful.

The print, alas, is small but Tuttle's evidently used an early printing of the 1851 edition for the type is clear and free of defects.

Frederic P. Elwert

Book Reviews

Reverend Samuel MacClintock's Journal 1760. edited and published by the Crown Point Road Association. (1972), 28pp., \$1.50.

MacClintock, the Chaplain in Col. John Goff's regiment in 1760, tells in his journal some incidents while building the road to Crown Point and pushing the French out of the Lake Champlain region.

The publishers in 1965 issued the "Crown Point Road Marker Booklet." About twelve of the 1972 pamphlet's twenty-eight pages are concerned with the journal (which is not complete) from May 26 to August 28, 1760. The remaining pages of the booklet concern other material about the Road, including a listing of three markers not mentioned in the 1965 booklet- one erected since, two old ones re-discovered. The foreword says "The original MacClintock journal has not been found. Any information about this 1760 document would be appreciated."

ED. NOTE: Two members of our Society edited this work: Miss Flora Weeks and Mrs. R. W. Charland.

George J. Covalt

Necrology

Berenice R. Tuttle. 1880-1973

Miss Tuttle was not only a charter member of the Society and one of its most active supporters, she willed the Society into being through her contacts and interests in the Rutland Women's Club. Active in Society affairs, she saw a life-long desire come true when she assisted Senator Robert Stafford at the dedication of the Museum of the Society in August of 1972. Her efforts in the past will continue to be noticed long in the future.

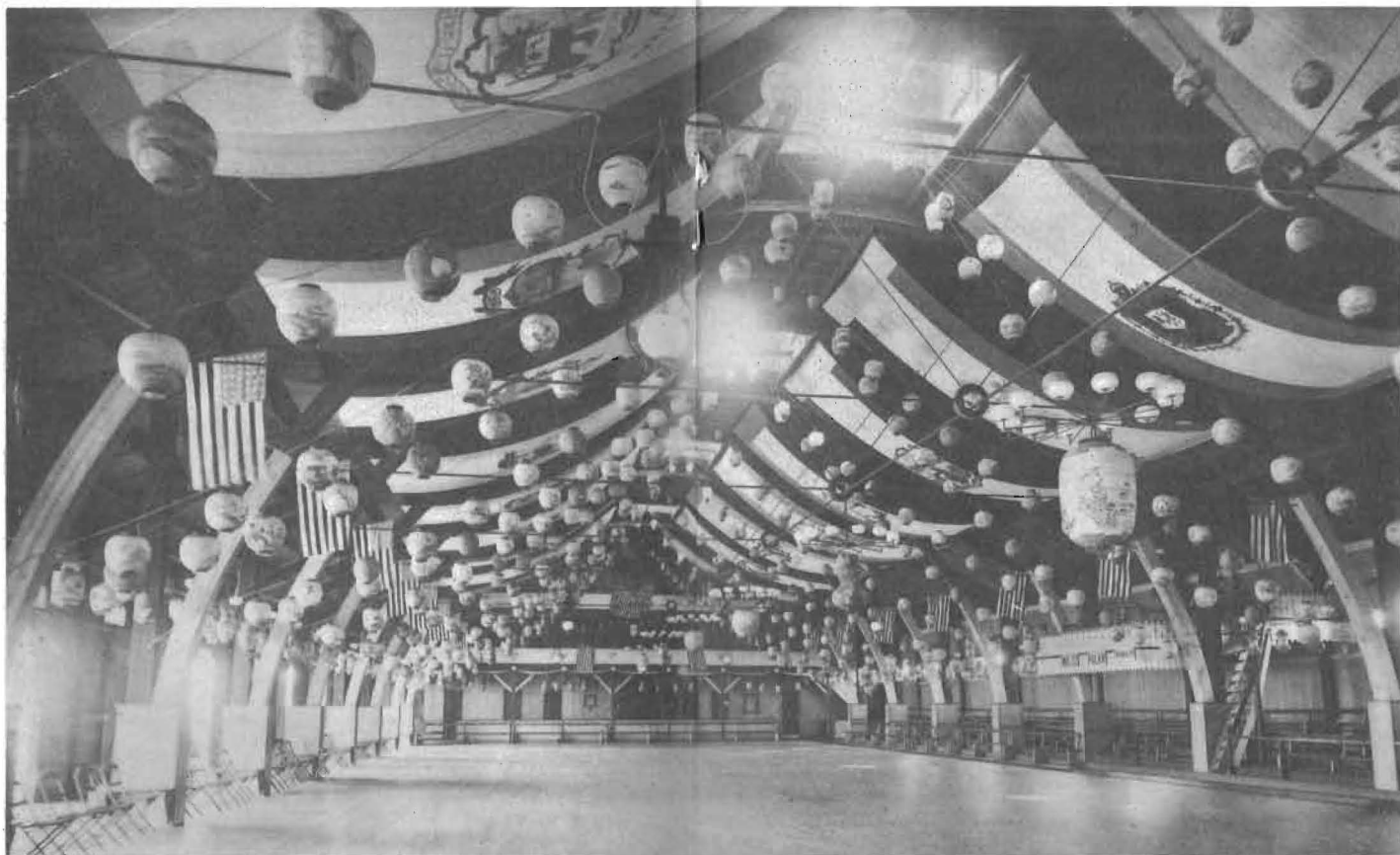
F. Robert Robinson. 1897-1973

Bob Robinson was not only a charter member of the Society but was our first treasurer. After his term as treasurer he continued on the Board of Directors, retiring this past fall. He spent much of his life in the west and returned to Rutland after an active career there. Always reserved and quiet, his counsel will be missed.

The Reverend Mark J. Harvey. 1899-1973

Father Harvey had been a member of this Society for several years. His interest in history was keen and he was proud of the scrapbook of mementos of his long ministry in Vermont.

Members whose deaths in recent months have saddened us are Miss Pearle Nichols, Mrs. Maebelle C. Temple and Irene (Mrs. Robert A.) Noble.



Rutland Bicycle Club Rink, Church Street. 7/4/84.

So reads the pencilled caption of a photograph presented to the Society early this fall by Florence Colvin Knapp, wife of the Reverend W. T. Knapp who recently celebrated the Fiftieth anniversary of his ordination as a minister.

Back in October 1970 our first issue reproduced a photograph of a group of young men with a Rutland pennant in the background. No positive identification of either the group or any individuals has been made. To make a long story short, research in the microfilms of the *Daily Herald and Globe* in the Rutland Public Library and the Real Estate records in the vault at City Hall has definitely disclosed that A. S. Marshall, F. G. Tuttle and C. G. Ross were trustees of the Club and that the rink was located on the site now occupied by numbers 60 to 66A Church Street. There is evidence that this building after its short life as a rink, served as a shirt factory and an early plant of the Marble City Electric Co.



John S. Carder, Mayor of City of Rutland

We were delighted to receive as a gift from Miss Marjorie G. Smith two ephemeral items, the existence of which we had been unaware. One, the May 1904 issue of *Expansion*, published in Burlington, displays on the front cover a portrait of John S. Carder, the first "Labor" mayor of Rutland. The other publication is the March 5, 1904 issue of the *Vermont Union Signal* published in Rutland at 9 Evelyn Street, which also reproduces Carder's likeness. The fame of many early mayors of Rutland is due to their prominence in the fields of banking, politics, industry or the Civil War, but John S. Carder is relatively unknown because he was a working man.

In the winter of 1903-04 the caucuses of the several political factions nominated the following for the office of mayor: the republicans chose Henry W. Spafford of 5 Royce Street, a functionary of the railroad; the democrats picked Dr. J. D. Hanrahan of 78 South Main Street, the first Catholic doctor in Rutland (and a mighty fine one) and a perennial office seeker; "citizen's" group supported the incumbent democrat, David W. Temple of 105 Center Street; and the labor party selected John S. Carder, of 38 Cleveland Avenue. Carder a native of Cornwall, England was a marble worker, a singer, a violinist and an oil painter. The race promised to be as close as the one almost sixty years later when Messrs. Abel, Foley, Nichols and Shortle ran in 1969. In both races one candidate withdrew: in 1904 it was Dr. Hanrahan and in 1969, Mr. Abel. The results in 1904 were close: Mr Carder 829 votes, Mr. Temple 801 and Mr. Spafford 722.

For more about Mr. Carder's term as Mayor, a volunteer is needed to run through the microfilms of the Rutland Herald in the Rutland Library. Any takers?

THE RUTLAND NAVY

George J. Covalt

A veteran of the "Rutland Navy" visited its home port recently.

The "Rutland Navy" in World War II as all of you—well, some of you—remember, consisted of one ship, the *U.S.S. Rutland*, an amphibious personnel attack transport (APA 192, for short) in Division 47, a part of Transport Squadron 16. The Commodore of Division 47, Captain A.S. Wotherspoon, made the *Rutland* his flagship and a few years ago presented his flag, a well-worn pennant bearing the Division 47 numeral, to Harold J. Nichols, then Mayor of the City. Mayor Nichols had the flag framed and turned it over to the Society which displays it in the Museum.

Our recent visitor, Mr. Edward J. Scieszka was an enlisted man (Radioman First Class) aboard the *Rutland* and thus his contributions to the Society are, in a way, more colorful than those of his commanding officer. He sent us two copies of each of three memorable documents: a *Plank Owner's Certificate*, commemorating the *Rutland's* commissioning on September 29, 1944; a certificate indicating the *Rutland* crossed the International Date Line January 31, 1945, and that our friend was then initiated into the Silent Mysteries of the Far East; and a certificate that he was on board the *Rutland* in Tokyo Bay September 2, 1945 when the peace terms of the Japanese surrender were signed. He also presented us with two copies of the official "Ship's History."

When he first came to Rutland he couldn't find anyone who knew that Rutland ever had a navy. Inquiring about a historical society, he was finally told to look up a "farmer named Todd in Rutland Town." A phone call to A. J. Todd, chairman of our Board of Directors, resulted in Arch meeting Mr. Scieszka and showing him the Museum. He admits that on first seeing the flag "... cold chills ran up and down my spine. Memories of the good times I had aboard and even those times when I was so frightened flashed through my mind. She was a good ship."

He took a picture of the flag and sent us a photo of APA 192 which we reproduce now. We are most grateful to Mr. Scieszka, of Lansing, Michigan, for these memorabilia of the "Rutland Navy."

EDITOR: As we go to press we acknowledge with thanks a loan from Mr. Scieszka of an album of photographs taken aboard the *Rutland* and the originals of the documents mentioned in Mr. Covalt's article. It is the Society's intention to display appropriately this collection and to publish some of this material as soon as possible.



Queries and Comments

In this corner of the Quarterly we welcome from our readers questions or comments about Rutland and Rutlanders. Here is a backlog of letters received during the past months:

... about Joel Dow, James Dow or Zenas Dow, circa 1790-1820. Joel is listed in County census of 1800; Zenas was born in Vermont about 1790-1800.

Ruth Dow Keig
332 Sheridan Road
Lake Bluff, Illinois

... location of grave of ancestor, Daniel Brown, died in Rutland, 1783.

Albert H. Thomas
17 State Street
East Bloomfield, N. J.

... would appreciate knowing the exact location of the post office *Eureka* in the town of Rutland, established November 4, 1885 and discontinued November 11, 1887. Also, is there any account of the first train to run from Rutland to Albany in November 1853 by way of the Rutland & Washington R.R. to Salem, N. Y. and then to Eagle Bridge over the Troy & Rutland, and thence to Albany over the Albany Northern R. R.?

Francis A. Poulin, 1259 Wing Ave., Schenectady, N. Y.

... trying to find information on Elihu and Chloe (Manley) Rowley whose son, Hiram, was born in Rutland County, March 22, 1795.

Richard H. Avery
Box 479
Ft. Covington, Ky.

... information of Maxfield families. My great-great-grandmother was a Maxfield and would like to know her maiden name as well as her husband's given name. The 1790 census for Rutland County lists a John Maxfield.

Cecile H. Flynn
4554 Franklin Ave.
Western Springs, Illinois

... information about the Whipples. Benjamin moved from Bennington to Whipple Hollow about 1770. David, a son, was born September 17, 1759 in Hardwick, Mass. The oldest son, Nehemiah, was born 1750.

Barbara W. Billeter
12720 Rice Road
San Diego, Calif.

Franklin Luther Kirkaldie, a marble worker, settler in Montana and grandson of James. Photo courtesy of Mrs. J. E. Baker



... information about James Kirkaldie who was printer for Rev. Samuel Williams and who died in Rutland 1796.

Mrs. J. Edward Baker
6011 Bell Street
Tumwater, Washington

Report of the Museum Committee

The exhibits of last fall are being removed and new exhibits will be ready for the spring opening. The old Bank of Rutland office is being converted into a reading alcove and several comfortable side-chairs and two reading lamps are needed. A committee headed by Dorothy Covalt is preparing an exhibit of early Rutland needlework and already several quilts and dresses have been readied for display. Two display cases have been donated by the Rutland Library and one has been given us by Nick Phillips. Simple 3 or 4 foot-long flourescent light fixtures are needed to light the exhibits in these cases. Donations will be appreciated.

A. J. Todd, Chairman

Museum Notes

Among recent acquisitions is a thick, one-volume edition of the plays of Shakespeare, owned by Henry F. Field and used by him and other members of the Shakespeare Club. Scattered among the plays are lists of the members and the roles they essayed, together with notes of omissions and adaptations. Also laid in is a printed program of the Club, issued during its eleventh year. A study of this intellectual group will be attempted and reported on in a future issue.

Also received recently: The November 1972 issue of the *Negro History Bulletin* which carries a three-page article on Lemuel Haynes by Elizabeth F. Chittenden.

From the Fortnightly we received a book of pressed flowers compiled by Julia C. R. Dorr after she had travelled abroad in the summer of 1891. The Society has two books, the ultimate fruits of her trip, *A Cathedral Pilgrimage* and *The Flowers of England's Face*. Several pages of this unique, striking book will be featured in the summer issue of the *Quarterly*.

COMING EVENTS

Coming events on second Sundays. At the Museum, 101 Center St., at 7:30 P.M.

February 10. Mr. Thomas McDevitt. "The Morgan Horse."

March 10. Mr. Frank Bauer. "Vermont Yesterdays—the Covered Bridge."

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
101 CENTER STREET
RUTLAND, VERMONT 05701

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